

Amendments to the Abstract

Please **add** the following Abstract to this application.

-- A method and an apparatus, which generates and plays diagnostic messages indicative of a media terminal adaptor provisioning status. The media terminal adaptor detects errors in its provisioning status or an out-of-service state. Thus, when the telephone connected to the media terminal adaptor is taken off-hook and the media terminal adaptor that is not provisioned, improperly provisioned, or placed in an out-of-service state by the service provider, the media terminal adaptor will generate an appropriate diagnostic audio voice message or tone sequence to the telephone instructing the listener on how to proceed in order to resolve the problem.--